

LACONIA CASE "CLEAR-CUT ACT," WILSON'S VIEW OF TORPEDOING

Continued from Page One... done, and how it shall be done—is altogether in the hands of President Wilson.

It was strongly intimated that the President had no immediate intention of again going to Congress.

The official interpretation of the Laconia incident as a "clear-cut act" did not bring in the word "overt," but the manner in which it was described left the impression strong that "overt act" was in the mind of the official who interpreted it.

SPLIT ON FLOOD BILL. The House Foreign Affairs Committee, split on President Wilson's request for authority in the international situation, failed today to report out the Flood bill giving the President that power.

Instead several committees sought to inject amendments. The upshot was that the committee voted to send the amendments to the President for consideration this afternoon.

Shortly after the meeting broke up Chairman Flood made an appointment with President Wilson to discuss the amended resolution.

It is probable the President will take advantage of the opportunity afforded him to inform Flood of the new and critical development resulting from the Laconia sinking and urged reconsideration of the resolution to include exactly what he asks.

The committee is to meet again at 4 p. m. The main fight was against giving the President power to arm American ships carrying munitions.

WOULD "ORDER" ARMING. Representative Augustus P. Gardner, Massachusetts, Republican, announced he would recommend that "directed" be substituted for "authorized" in the Flood resolution giving the President power to arm merchant ships. This would make it mandatory that the President arm vessels.

In the meantime the same obstruction was met in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee session. After a two-hour session behind closed doors the Senate Committee broke up. No decision had been reached.

Not all the minority men, however, joined in the complaint against the measure. It appeared likely that two Republicans would swing in with the Democrats, while possibly one or more Democrats might join the Republican opposition.

Members who came from the session about noon said that the Democrats probably could and would swing things their way, but that a vote did not then seem near.

Representative Porter, Pennsylvania, Republican, sought to keep armament carrying vessels while Representative Miller, Minnesota, Republican, offered an amendment to strip Wilson of "other instrumentalities" than guns, gunners and munitions.

MODIFIED AUTHORITY. Senate committee, while failing to set, said however, that the measure would be reported out in "modified form."

Representative Porter, backed by Representative Shackelford, Missouri, Democrat, carried on the two Republicans would arm the munitions ships. He suggested three amendments which in substance would give the President power to arm ships only in case they carried no war munitions or contraband.

For more than two hours the House committee members fought over the amendments of Porter, Miller and Rogers, of Massachusetts. So strong was the fight on the munition ship feature that the committee felt it inadvisable to try to force a resolution.

Receiving information in reply to these queries from the second office of the Laconia, the German officer remarked that a British Admiralty boat would reach the survivors shortly and then departed without offering assistance.

American Consul Frost, at Queenstown, reported the incidents to Ambassador Page today, who at once began a searching investigation of the case.

According to Consul Frost, two American women are among the thirteen killed in the German submarine's unwarmed torpedoing of the liner. They were Mrs. Mary (Mrs. Albert Harris) Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy.

Consul Frost made this report to the American Embassy here today, adding that the four other Americans aboard the ship were saved. They were Floyd P. Gibbons, Mrs. F. E. Harris, Mr. T. Kirby and the Rev. Father Waring.

Mrs. Hoy and Miss Hoy died from exposure in an open boat. They were buried at sea.

Explosions of the two torpedoes, however, caused most of the casualties, it was believed.

The conduct of both passengers and crew was generally calm, although there was some confusion, owing to the fact that the lights went out immediately after the first explosion.

The fourteen survivors at Bantry had been picked up, but pulled into the harbor themselves, carrying eight dead in their lifeboat.

Doctor Hawke, of San Francisco, one of the Laconia's passengers, was playing COCK FIGHT ENDS IN SOUP.

Pittsburgh Hospital Patients Benefit by Raid on Sportmen.

HOY DEMANDS U. S. AVENGE DEATH OF MOTHER AND SISTER

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The United States avenger his mother's and sister's death was made in a cable dispatch to President Wilson today by Austin Young Hoy.

He requested the President to grant him permission to be the first volunteer in case an American citizen army was raised and said otherwise he expected to enlist in the British army. Hoy called his employers, the Sullivan Machinery Company, of Chicago, today, announcing he had taken an "indefinite leave of absence."

This leave, he said, was taken in order to "carry out plans to help avenge the death of my mother and sister."

CHICAGO, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Albert H. Hoy and her daughter, Elizabeth, who died of exposure in open boats after the Laconia was torpedoed, were prominent in Chicago society.

They had spent the winter here visiting and were on their way to rejoin Doctor Hoy and his son, Austin, in London.

U-BOAT MASTER "ON JOB" IN PERSON AT SINKING

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 27.—The commander of the German submarine which sank the Cunard liner Laconia with a loss of at least two American lives stood on the deck of the undersea craft in plain sight of the passengers and gave the final instructions which sent the liner to the bottom.

This was asserted positively here today by Dr. Benjamin E. Hawkes, one of the survivors.

"When the first torpedo struck the vessel," said Doctor Hawkes, "I was in the doctor's room playing cards. Everybody rushed to the life belts and the whole company got into the boats as soon as possible. There was absolutely no panic. The conduct of the officers and crew was splendid."

"We had been in the lifeboats perhaps half an hour when we could plainly discern the submarine appear nearer and nearer the Laconia. Finally the submarine got so close that we could see the commander standing on the deck. The Laconia was listing heavily, and pretty soon the submarine let another torpedo. The shot went directly through the engine room and she sank rapidly."

"After the liner had disappeared the submarine drew near several of the lifeboats and the commander shouted: 'You are only a short distance from shore. The patrol (British) will save you.' With that he barked an order that was unintelligible, and the submarine disappeared."

Some of the last persons to leave the ship jumped into the water, but they reached the lifeboats in safety, being hauled up by those already in the lifeboats.

"The submarine commander yelled at some of the lifeboats inquiring where the captain was. I suppose he referred to the Laconia's captain. No one was able to tell him, so he went away."

Other passengers corroborated the statements of Doctor Hawkes. All joined in praising the action and coolness of the Laconia's officers.

CLAIMS TAX EXEMPTION FOR LITTLE THEATRE

Stage Society Balks at \$500 Levy, Arguing It Is Not Money-Making Corporation.

The Stage Society of Philadelphia, which took an appeal to Common Pleas Court No. 5 from the action of the Mercantile Appraisers in levying a tax of \$500, claims an exemption from the levy because it is not a corporation for profit, according to the ruling of Judge Spaiser, one of the active members and counsel for the society.

"A little theatre at Seventeenth and Delaware streets has been leased," explained Mr. Spaiser today, "but we do not operate a playhouse in a strictly business sense. The purposes for which the society is organized are advancement of modern drama, the study of stagecraft and the dissemination of knowledge along those lines. It is not a commercial enterprise, but an endeavor in the artistic. Therefore we do not feel we are subject to a mercantile tax."

Argument on the appeal will be heard by Court No. 5 at an early date.

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Formerly \$85.00 Now 38.00 Formerly \$225.00 Now 110.00

STOCKHOLDER'S "QUIZ" STIRS LEHIGH MEETING

Question as to \$35,000,000 Carried in Securities Ruled Out by President

INFORMATION DENIED. There were a few tense moments today at the annual meeting of stockholders of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation when W. L. Haehnel, a stockholder, demanded that the board of directors give an accounting within sixty days of securities representing a value of \$34,500,000.

This amount is \$8,000,000 in excess of the capitalization of the company. Samuel D. Warriner, president of the company, refused the demand of Mr. Haehnel, saying that the board, after considering the matter, resolved that to make the information asked a matter of public record would not be in the interests of the company or of its stockholders.

Here J. W. Clark, 34, a banker, arose and expressed great indignation at the refusal of the information asked by Mr. Haehnel.

"The stockholders elected the board," he said, "if they fail to meet the wishes of the stockholders, the stockholders should turn out the board and get a new one."

The situation was not improved when George H. Stevenson, another stockholder, asked a few pointed questions concerning the actual properties of the company which are carried on their books at a value of \$33,350,000. These properties showed a loss last year of \$39,000.

Mr. Haehnel's motion was tabled. In explaining his motive in offering the resolution for the accounting of the securities, Mr. Haehnel said:

"In offering this resolution it was not my intention to embarrass the management in any way or to ask any question that was not proper for all of the stockholders to know."

"There are items aggregating \$31,500,000, a sum greatly in excess of the entire capital stock of the company, but the board decides that it is not justified in giving stockholders detailed information as to the manner in which this huge sum is invested."

"It is quite difficult to see how such information could embarrass the company. If it is holding securities in violation of the law, it is time that the company disposed of them."

"The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company is one of the oldest corporations in Philadelphia, and hundreds of investors are vitally interested in its welfare and should be fully advised as to its affairs, as it is now the common practice of all large corporations."

STANDARD BEARING COMPANY SALE RATIFIED

Decree in U. S. Court Here Confirms That Made in New Jersey District Court

Judge Thompson in the United States District Court today confirmed the sale of the assets and property of the Standard Roller Bearing Company, of this city, to Frank Smith, an attorney, representing a syndicate. The decree entered by Judge Thompson is similar to the one made by Judge Bellah in the District Court of New Jersey on February 23 last.

In the decree of Judge Thompson provision is made that the two trustees in this district, Robert S. Woodward, former president of the company, and S. Lawrence Rudine, who have been in charge of the company since October, 1913, are to be paid \$15,000 a year each for their services.

Under the plan for the purchase of the company's creditors are to be paid sixty cents on \$1, and stockholders are to get \$7 a share on stock that sold at \$50 par. To consummate the transaction an outlay of \$1,400,000 will be required.

Several minor matters remain to be adjusted, and for a short time the company will be in the hands of a substitute receiver.

Woman Found Dead in Creek

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Feb. 27.—Mrs. Victor Gowinski, sixty years old, was found dead in a creek at Nanioke. She disappeared from her home Saturday. Doctors announced that her death was due to exposure. The woman had been ill for some time.

EDGE NAMES VINELAND MAN FOR STATE JOB

Frank Wanser Recommended for Superintendent of Weights and Measures Despite Protests

TRENTON, Feb. 27.—After his friends had made a strenuous fight for him, William L. Waldron, of this city, was turned down today as State Superintendent of Weights and Measures by Governor Edge when the latter sent to the Senate for confirmation for this position the name of Frank Wanser, of Vineland. Other nominations were:

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Ocean County, William Howard Jeffrey, of Tom's River; Prosecutor of the Pleas for Ocean County, Richard Plummer, of Lakewood; members of the county boards of Ocean County, Ulysses S. Grant, of Tom's River, Ocean County, to succeed George C. Van Hise, Cumberland County; Wilbert P. Hobbs, of Cumberland County; Cumberland County, to succeed William Myers, member of the board of managers of the Home for Disabled Soldiers, Soldiers, Marines and their wives at Vineland, Samuel C. Garrettson, of North Amboy, Middlesex County, to succeed Thomas F. McCormack; members of the Board of Commerce and Navigation, J. Spencer Smith of Tenafly, Bergen County, reappointed, and Robert F. Eagle, of Beach Haven, Ocean County, to succeed J. Ward Richardson.

MUHLBERG ORATOR PICKED

Raymond Leembais, Philosophy Student, Wins Over Five Speakers

ALLEGHTOWN, Pa., Feb. 27.—From among six speakers Raymond Leembais, of Erie, a junior at Muhlenberg and a student in philosophy, won the oratorical honors in the contest last evening in the college chapel and will represent the college at the inter-collegiate contest at Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, March 15. The alternate is Elwood Schwenk, a senior from Boyertown, a student in the classical department.

PATRIOT AND CHRISTIAN LINKED IN LENT TALK

Dr. H. P. A. Abbot, However, Explores Jingo Outbursts. Speaks at Garburk

Patriotism in its "relation to the gospel of Christ" were discussed at the noonday Lenten service in the Garburk Theater today by the Rev. H. P. Abbot, dean of Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland, O.

The patriotism and Christianity were closely associated, Doctor Abbot said, though he deplored "jingo phases" of some outbursts. "There is a noisy, blatant patriotism from which Christianity must be dissociated," he declared. "There is the kind of patriotism which in vaudeville shows breaks out into tremendous turns at the first mention of the flag or any national symbol that happens to be made in some jingo song. This kind is worthless."

"There is the real, true patriotism," he continued, "is the sense of awe, which comes from realizing that the nation is the creation of God. It is this patriotism that takes the dearest memories of earth and links them with the highest heights of Heaven."

"But patriotism, though it is associated with Christianity, is no more a Christian virtue than is the love of a mother for her child. It has existed in all times and knows no divisions. Perhaps the most famous of all the patriotic sentiments was that written by a Trojan and a Roman."

VEEGEMEN AGAIN AT WORK

Blow Up Postoffice Safe in Delaware Town and Get Away With \$158

GEORGETOWN, Del., Feb. 27.—Professional swagmen, supposed to be the Oshborne gang which blew up the Smyrna postoffice, wrecked the safe in the Georgetown postoffice this morning and got away with \$158 in stamps and money. They effected an entrance with a cold chisel and then soaked nitroglycerin in the safe, blowing the whole front off. Despite the explosion the robbery was not discovered until about 4 o'clock this morning when an early riser saw the door open.

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The Ludwig Trio-Electric is the most wonderful musical instrument of the age. It is the supreme development of the player-piano, enabling you to enjoy the reproduction of the world's best music, as played by artists for the Ludwig Trio-Electric. Every shade of expression is just as true as if you were listening to the performer at the piano. Can be played three ways, in the usual manner by hand, as a player-piano, or operated by electricity, without changing the perfect expression of the artist.

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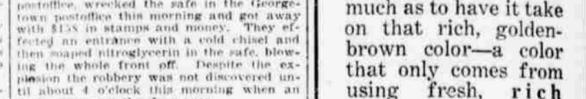
J. H. R. Cromwell, stepson of E. T. Stotesbury, has been commissioned a lieutenant in the volunteer naval defenses reserve. Young Mr. Cromwell, who is still a minor, recently had built himself a seagoing motorboat, and if he is needed he will command this vessel. Other Philadelphia reservists commissioned as lieutenants are John L. Rogers, Rogers-Eagan Steel Company; Harold Goodwin, Philadelphia Electric Company; Joseph F. Koney, master mechanic of the Philadelphia Naval Home, who served as an engineer aboard the St. Louis during the Spanish war, and James Connor, for twelve years a petty officer in the navy and now employed by the Midvale Steel Company. Richard Warren, a student at the University of Pennsylvania and resident of Bryn Mawr, was given an ensign's commission.

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